

DANDE

Aruba's New Years Musical Tradition

One of the nicest expressions of Aruba's rich culture is an unique musical tradition at the end of every year called DANDE.

During the DANDE on new year's eve, DANDE musicians visit homes of the Aruban people right after midnight playing serenades and offering best wishes for the New Year.

The DANDE singers improvise inspired by their ever-changing audience as they go along with a hat receiving gifts in return. For the Aruban this is the best way to start a new year.

Original DANDE instruments:

- 'chapi'
- tambor
- wiri

Additional DANDE instruments:

- marimba
- guitar
- violin
- accordion
- cuatro

Nowadays Aruban DANDE festivals are organized every single year, where a jury chooses the best DANDE singer, the most popular DANDE and the best DANDE GROUP.

Foundation Juan Mario Odor helps preserve culture thru art exhibitions in the Hotels.

